

January

1987

PAARA

GRAPHS

Featuring:

WA6LNV is now
PAARA as the
for the new year
The president's
his goals and
PAARA a more

the President of
elections finished
in December, 1986.
report discusses
ideas for making
active association.

**THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER
OF THE PALO ALTO AMATEUR
RADIO ASSOCIATION
AND**

THE MENLO PARK C.D. AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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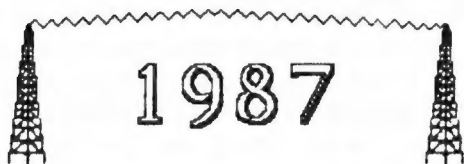
Membership in PAARA is \$6.00 per calendar year which includes a subscription to *PAARAgaphs*.

Make payment to the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, P.O. Box 911, Menlo Park, CA 94026

Club Net on 147.45 MHz Mondays at 8:30 P.M.

COVER DESIGN BY KENNETH S. DUEKER

January



From the Editor's Desk:

QST PAARA members: I have some good news and some bad news. The good news is in two parts. First, PAARA is still alive as a club and in good shape, at least financially and emotionally. Second, --this is good new for me!-- I have been accepted to Pomona (a small, private college in Claremont in Southern California). Well this leads me directly to the bad news. School starts at Pomona this September. Therefore, I will no longer be able to function as editor (DX-editing would neither be practical nor can I do well in college and other activities while doing the required extra work as editor). Knowing the problems that we often have in finding replacement officers, I just wanted to announce this fact well before any action will be required. Thanks!

--de KB6BPM

Speaker of the Month

An interesting half-hour video tape show on Minami Torishima (Marcus Island) and Okino Torishima: two extremely rare DX contact areas. Narrated by resident ham, Rick Henry, 7J1ACH, and the Japanese Loran Contingent who were unable to come.

THE PRESIDENTS CORNER

PAARA will remain alive but I'm not sure how well for 1987. The crisis of volunteer leadership continues to be a problem (as it is in most fraternal organizations). We need a commitment from two or three people to share in the publishing of *PAARAgaphs*. This means taking copy-ready material from our Editor, Kenneth Dueker, KB6BPM, and producing 200 copies at a local copy shop (some cutting and pasting is occasionally needed). The copies are assembled in order and then folded and stapled by hand. The finished product is then delivered to the doorstep of Bill McElhinney, KA6LZI, who puts on stamps, labels, and delivers the goods for first-class mailing from Palo Alto. The copy/stapeling effort usually takes about two hours at the Copy Mat (University and High, Palo Alto) which has all the cutting and posting support equipment required. A single issue set runs \$40 to \$60 depending on the number of pages; the expense is reimbursed through Treasurer Frank Chandler, WB6QPV. If you think you can give just a couple of hours of service to PAARA in order to keep our newsletter going PLEASE let me know. I would also like to point out that the last two years of *PAARAgaphs* copy work has been provided by myself and Andy Korsak with occasional support from WA6AZP, N6CHI, NM6K, and others.

Another area no longer covered is the refreshments. Your treasurer Frank Chandler, WB6QPV, has generously covered this for over a year but like other officers can only be stretched so far. This is a job that only takes a few minutes before and after the meeting but must be done on a reliable basis. We need the type of person who normally comes to every meeting and can take the responsibility of getting a substitute when necessary. If you think you can cover this area, let me know at the Friday meeting. The one good thing about this job is that it is the only PAARA effort for which the membership shows some genuine appreciation. On a happier note, I want to point out that unlike many fraternal organizations, we are operating on a sound financial basis.

Those who attended the Christmas Party all seemed to have a good time. Twenty eight showed up at THE FARMHOUSE in Redwood City on the 16th to enjoy good food, good company and a gift exchange. I will call all of the board members before our January meeting and see if we can revitalize this important part of our organization. Happy New Year to all and I hope to see you at the January meeting!

-de WA6LNV-

(I am sorry to report that the above was the only item submitted to me for this month's issue which was written by a club member. It was one of only two items submitted in any case! Please write something or send something in. Thanks for your support. --de Editor Kenneth Sutherlin Dueker, KB6BPM)

The following article was submitted by Robert Taylor, KA6NAN, is reprinted with permission from *GATEWAY*, the American Radio Relay League's packet newsletter:

NETWORK MANAGEMENT: A GROWING NEED (PART I)

manage - ... to treat with care ...
(Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary)

Recent efforts to establish network planning and management in a number of regions have met with some resistance from packet operators. The situation is not unlike that which prevailed in the early days of VHF voice repeaters, in which many repeater owners and users resisted coordination until it could no longer be put off. Eventually, the need became so pressing and obvious that opposition melted (well, most of it) and a rational system of frequency use became common.

Amateur packet radio is rapidly approaching, if not already at, a state equaling the worst of the uncoordinated voice repeater problems. If we are to increase the usefulness and pervasiveness of packet, we must quickly get our house in order. Since the idea of a structured network is opposed in some quarters, perhaps it is time to take a close look at the situation, with particular emphasis on the possible solutions.

As anyone who operates in an even mildly congested packet environment can attest, the most significant problems we face today are long delays and restricted path lengths. By long delays, I mean that the end-to-end data transfers are subject to numerous retransmissions, requiring much more time to get a specified number of characters transferred to the other end of the link than would be required in an uncongested environment. Restricted path lengths are imposed when connections through more than a few digipeaters (the number varies from region to region) are unusable, either because the TNCs "retry out" after a number of retransmissions or because the delays involved render the link ineffective.

As it turns out, these problems are two sides of the same coin: collisions. A collision occurs when two packet stations transmit simultaneously, with one of the stations being unreadable at its intended receiver. The most common example of this is when two stations are trying to transmit through the same digipeater.

Part II of this article will appear in next month's issue (unless I get something better!) --de KB6BPM

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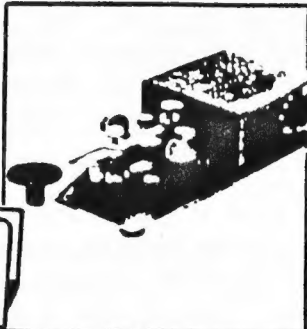
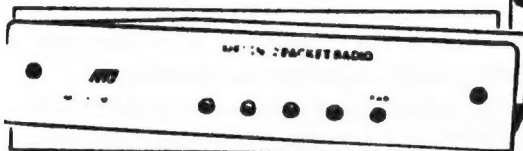
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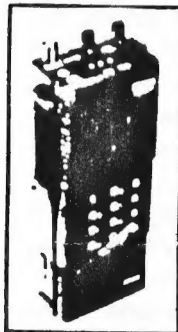
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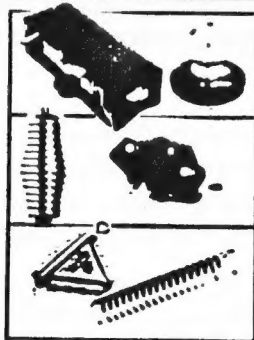
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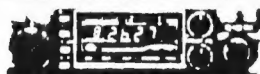


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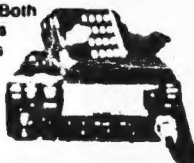
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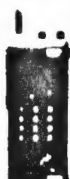
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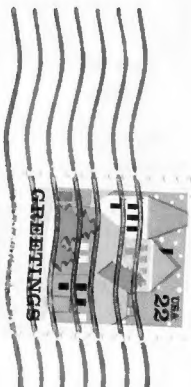
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